

# BUSINESSOBJECTS RAPID MARTS FOR SAP SOLUTIONS

**BusinessObjects  
Rapid Marts  
Benefits**

- Gain rapid insight
- Accelerate BI deployment
- Lower development cost
- Skills Required for Developing an SAP ERP Data Warehouse**

- Business analysis
- Data modeling
- SAP ERP
- ABAP/4
- API Support**
- ABAP
- BAPI
- IDoc

## PREPACKAGED DATA WAREHOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR FASTER, HIGHER ROI

Accelerate your business intelligence (BI) deployment with a prebuilt data mart, using preconfigured metadata (Business Objects universes), sample reports, and built-in best practices for data integration in an SAP environment. BusinessObjects™ Rapid Marts™ from Business Objects, an SAP company, enables your organization to quickly build application-specific data marts without waiting for a long data warehouse deployment or placing a heavy burden on your IT staff. Delivering prebuilt data flows, business logic, and schema, BusinessObjects Rapid Marts understands the SAP® ERP metadata, interprets hierarchies and difficult data structures (such as pool and cluster tables), and is rapidly deployed and extended.

## COMPARISON OF SAP ERP AND DATA WAREHOUSING

	SAP ERP	Data Warehousing
Design Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quick data entry</li> <li>• Transactional integrity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Query performance</li> <li>• Understandability</li> <li>• Avoids transactional system impact</li> </ul>
Data Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited to current transactional data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes actuals, budgets, forecast, and historical data</li> <li>• Preserves historical data relationship</li> <li>• Makes it easy to include additional data sources</li> </ul>
RDBMS Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complex data analysis</li> <li>• Thousands of tables</li> <li>• Normalized data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple and predictable</li> <li>• Dozens of star schema</li> <li>• Denormalized data</li> </ul>

*Table 1: Comparison of SAP ERP and Data Warehousing*

BusinessObjects Rapid Marts for SAP Solutions are prepackaged, flexible data marts that can be implemented in weeks instead of the months or quarters that are normally associated with data warehousing projects on SAP ERP. Rapid Marts are powered by BusinessObjects Data Integrator, a powerful and productive data integration platform that leads the industry with its support for extracting data from and loading data into SAP ERP and SAP Business Information Warehouse (BW) systems. SAP application interfaces supported include ABAP, BAPI, and IDoc.

With Rapid Marts, you don't need to acquire specialized skills in the areas of data warehousing, data modeling, business domains, and enterprise applications. As a result, you can significantly lower your development costs.

Rapid Marts are designed using industry best practices and input from hundreds of companies to meet the vast majority of your needs. Within days, you can quickly and easily customize the

Rapid Marts for your specific query and analysis, reporting, and performance management requirements.

Each Rapid Mart™ is designed to address the reporting and analytic needs of a specific business area like general ledger, sales, or purchasing. A component-based framework allows you analyze across these subject areas by combining different Rapid Marts. This allows your business priorities to drive your BI deployment while enabling you to lower maintenance costs.

## **10 Essential Steps for Building Data Marts and Data Warehouses on SAP ERP Data**

The following lists the 10 essential steps for building data marts and data warehouses on SAP ERP data. BusinessObjects Rapid Marts facilitate the first nine steps.

1. Specify business requirements.
2. Determine what data is required.
3. Discover exactly where that data is held.
4. Identify and incorporate SAP ERP customizations.
5. Design and build database schema for the data mart.
6. Create programs to initially populate the data mart.
7. Identify and capture new, changed, and deleted transactions.
8. Cleanse, transform, validate, and load changes.
9. Robust error recovery and failover processes.
10. Gather feedback, refine, and go live.

## **PREBUILT FOR RAPID IMPLEMENTATION**

BusinessObjects Rapid Marts for SAP ERP delivers packaged functionality, including:

- Business domain expertise
- Data modeling expertise
- SAP ERP and ABAP/4 technical expertise
- Data warehousing expertise

### **Business Domain Expertise**

Each Rapid Mart reflects the expertise and experience of leading business analysts and SAP ERP domain experts from hundreds of organizations. Rapid Marts provide best-practice business analysis and data models that span multiple business processes and functions.

**BusinessObjects  
Rapid Marts  
Features**

Data models

DDL for schema  
creation

Recommended  
joins and indexes

ETL workflows for  
initial and  
incremental data

Job recovery  
framework

Sample universes,  
SQL, and reports

Technical and  
business analysis  
documentation



Figure 1. BusinessObjects Rapid Marts for SAP

Each SAP ERP module offers flexibility and the ability to be customized, with much variation in business processes and analysis requirements between modules. Therefore, the underlying data model is very complex. For example:

- Some modules allow transactions to be physically deleted, making it difficult to track or analyze cancellations.
- Most modules copy master data as each transaction advances through a business process, which presents the question: For each transaction type, which version is the right version?

**Data Modeling Expertise**

As different as each SAP ERP module can be, it's vital that each Rapid Mart can be linked together to support analyses like customer profitability, marketing effectiveness, and employee productivity. This connectivity requires data from different modules. You can install the data models for each Rapid Mart together to create a conformed data warehouse based on industry best practices for data warehouse design, as defined by The Kimball Group. Adherence to standards enables business queries to traverse multiple subject areas and deliver even greater insight.

BusinessObjects Rapid Marts are easily extended to include additional data from SAP ERP, SAP BW, other SAP systems, and data from all your other enterprise databases, applications, or legacy systems.

**SAP Technical Expertise**

Rapid Marts exploits the rich support for SAP ERP provided by BusinessObjects Data Integrator, including browsing and importing metadata from SAP's data dictionary, generating ABAP/4 to access all ERP data – pooled, clustered, and transparent tables. Industry experts have developed, refined, and incorporated the best techniques for correctly extracting and preparing the data to meet the business analysis requirements for each Rapid Mart. For example:

- BusinessObjects Rapid Mart for SAP ERP Sales provides alternative methods for calculating backlogs that manage the identification and removal of cancellations and physical deletions.
- BusinessObjects Rapid Mart for SAP ERP Inventory includes an option to create a derived history of daily inventory by accumulating materials movements over time, to overcome the lack of inventory history in SAP ERP.

- BusinessObjects Rapid Mart for SAP ERP Production Planning saves planned orders during initial and incremental loads. This is necessary for comparing material requirements planning (MRP) production plans with actual production orders, as ERP planned orders have no creation dates and are deleted when converted to production orders.

### Data Warehousing Expertise

BusinessObjects Rapid Marts embody the practical experiences from thousands of data mart and data warehousing implementations. The flexible, component-based design means that these Rapid Marts can be implemented standalone or in any combination. The advanced error recovery and intelligent workflow framework prevents jobs from being repeated unnecessarily – even where Rapid Marts share components for conformed dimensions or partially completed workflows are restarted.

## FLEXIBLE AND CONFIGURABLE

Each Rapid Mart is designed to be easily configured and extended. Dozens of variables are used to control all the extract, transform, and load (ETL) processes. For example:

- The BusinessObjects Rapid Marts for SAP ERP Sales includes parameters for defining whether to examine drop shipments and when to search for deleted orders or changes in business partner data.
- All BusinessObjects Rapid Marts for SAP ERP contain parameters for defining default values, company code, and start and end dates for data extraction.
- The BusinessObjects Rapid Mart for SAP ERP Accounts Payable includes parameters that define buckets for aging periods.

Rapid Marts are designed with input from hundreds of companies to meet the vast majority of your needs in a matter of days. Additionally, using BusinessObjects Data Integrator, you can quickly and easily customize the Rapid Marts for your specific query and analysis, reporting, and performance management requirements.

## IMPLEMENT IN DAYS, CUSTOMIZE WITHIN WEEKS

With BusinessObjects Rapid Marts for SAP Solutions, you can get the right information at the right time to improve your organizational performance. To learn more about our BusinessObjects Rapid Marts for SAP Solutions and how they can make data management and business intelligence easy for your organization, visit us online at [www.businessobjects.com](http://www.businessobjects.com).

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